

Message Text

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SUBJ: VISIT OF SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

US SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE BOB BERGLAND ARRIVED IN WARSAW TODAY, MAY 18, FOR THREE DAYS OF DISCUSSION WITH POLISH AGRICULTURAL AND TRADE OFFICIALS. THE VISIT IS PART OF A TOUR WHICH HAS ALREADY TAKEN THE SECRETARY TO THE SOVIET UNION FOR MEETINGS ON THE US-SOVIET LONG TERM GRAIN SUPPLY AGREEMENT AND TO NORWAY FOR THE NORWEGIAN CONSTITUTION DAY CELEBRATIONS. FOLLOWING THE TALKS IN WARSAW, SECRETARY BERGLAND WILL VISIT HUNGARY, ROMANIA, AND THE UNITED KINGDOM.

ON HIS ARRIVAL AT WARSAW'S OKECIE AIRPORT, SECRETARY BERGLAND WAS MET BY U.S. AMBASSADOR WILLIAM E. SCHAUFELLE AND HIGH RANKING POLISH OFFICIALS, INCLUDING MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE LEON KLONICA.

IN ADDITION TO MINISTER KLONICA, SECRETARY BERGLAND IS SCHEDULED TO MEET WITH POLISH PRIME MINISTER PIOTR JAROSZEWICZ, MINISTER OF TRADE AND MARITIME ECONOMY HERZY OLSZEWSKI, MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS EMIL WJOTASZEK
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AND OTHER PROMINENT OFFICIALS. SECRETARY BERGLAND AND OTHER MEMBERS OF HIS PARTY WILL ALSO VISIT A PRIVATE FARM AT BRAKI AND THE MALEWICE STATE FARM.

ANSWERING REPORTERS' QUESTIONS AT THE AIRPORT, SECRETARY BERGLAND SAID HE WAS IN POLAND TO GET ACQUAINTED WITH POLISH OFFICIALS HAVING RESPONSIBILITY

FOR AGRICULTURAL AND TRADE MATTERS.

HE SAID DISCUSSION WOULD INCLUDE THE VOLUME AND TERMS OF CREDITS FOR POLISH PURCHASE OF AMERICAN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS. DURING THE CURRNET, 1977-78 MARKETING YEAR, U.S. AGRICULTURAL SALES TO POLAND ARE LIKELY TO EXCEED \$500 MILLION DOLLARS.

BOB BERGLAND BECAME THE TWENTIETH SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE FOR THE U.S. IN JANUARY 1977. PRIOR TO HIS CURRENT POSITION, HE WAS A CONGRESSMAN REPRESENTING MINNESOTA'S SEVENTH DISTRICT BEGINNING IN 1971. A MEMBER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE, MR. BERGLAND PREVIOUSLY WORKED FOR THE US DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FROM 1961 TO 1968, STARTING AS CHAIRMAN OF THE MINNESOTA AGRICULTURAL STABILIZATION AND CONSERVATION SERVICE (ASCS). IN 1963 HE BECAME ASCS'S MIDWEST DIRECTOR AND FOR FIVE YEARS ADMINISTERED THE AGENCY'S PROGRAMS IN THAT AREA.

IN SPITE OF HIS EXTENSIVE PUBLIC SERVICE IN AGRICULTURE, SECRETARY BERGLAND CONSIDERS HIMSELF FIRST A FARMER. BEFORE BEGINNING THE CURRENT TRIP THE SECRETARY SAID THAT HE WAS GOING TO APPLY A FARMER'S EYE TO THE FIELDS OF OTHER COUNTRIES IN HOPES OF DETERMINING GRAIN YIELDS AND NEEDS FOR THE FUTURE. MR.BERGLAND STILL UNCLASSIFIED

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OWNS AND OPERATES A 600-ACRE FAMR NEAR ROSEAU, MINNESOTA, RAISING WHEAT AND LAWN SEED. BRADSHAW

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